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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE 1600

In re application of:

Verrier et al.

Appl. No.: 09/769,439

Filed: January 26, 2001

For: Kit for Transvenously Accessing the Pericardial Space Via the Right

Atrium

Confirmation No.: 4394

Art Unit: 1641

Examiner: Lam, Ann Y.

Atty. Docket: 1565.0020002/MBR/GSB

Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)(1)

Commissioner for Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

It is hereby requested that the period for replying to the outstanding Office Action be extended one months from **December 23, 2003** to **January 23, 2004** by the filing of this Petition and fee payment.

The petition fee (37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)) is believed to be \$55.00 for a one month extension for a small entity. Fee payment is provided in our accompanying PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form. However, if extensions of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 other than those provided herewith are required to prevent abandonment of the present patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

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55.00 OP

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.

George S. Bardmesser Attorney for Applicants Registration No. 44,020

1100 New York Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20005-3934 (202) 371-2600

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